

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. ARMS FOR MOROCCO

A. IRANIAN CONCERNS

MINISTER OF COURT ALAM INFORMED CHARGE MIKLOS FEBRUARY 29
THAT THE SHAH:

--WILL NOT OBJECT IF THE USG FINDS IT NECESSARY TO TELL
CONGRESS THE ARMS ARE BEING TRANSFERRED TO JORDAN
BECAUSE JORDAN WANTS TO HELP MOROCCO;

--WANTS THE TRANSFER PROCESS SET IN MOTION FOR SIXTEEN
155 MM HOWITZERS AND SIX F-5A'S, PLUS MUNITIONS AND
SPARES;

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--FEARS THAT ONLY THE CONSTRAINTS IMPOSED ON ALGERIA
BY ITS OWN INTERNAL SITUATION CAN SAVE THE DAY; AND

--THINKS THE USG SHOULD BE MORE CONCERNED ABOUT MOROC-
CO BECAUSE THE PROBLEM "IS ON YOUR ATLANTIC BORDER."

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ALAM EXPRESSED THE PERSONAL VIEW THAT ONLY ANTI-TANK AND
ANTI-AIRCRAFT MISSILES CAN HELP MOROCCO NOW AND WONDERED
WHETHER THE PROPOSED TRANSFERS CAN COME OFF IN TIME TO DO
ANY GOOD.

B. TALKS WITH THE MOROCCANS

IN CONVERSATIONS FEBRUARY 28 AND 29 WITH MOROCCAN AIR FORCE
CHIEF KHABBAJ AND THE MOROCCAN AMBASSADOR IN AMMAN, AMBASSA-
DOR PICKERING:

--LEARNED THAT RIFAI HAS PROVIDED A NEW LETTER OF
REQUEST TO IRAN MAKING NO MENTION OF MOROCCO; AND

--IMPLIED TO THEM THAT THE USG WOULD NOT NOTIFY CON-
GRESS ON THE F-5A'S WITHOUT A WRITTEN UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN MOROCCO AND JORDAN ON REPLACEMENT OF THE AIR-
CRAFT. (SECRET) TEHRAN 2067; AMMAN 1124, 2/29 AND
1092 (EXDIS), 2/28.)

2. SAUDI ARABIA: KHALID COMPLAINS TO SIMON

KING KHALID TOLD SECRETARY SIMON FEBRUARY 28:

--HE WELCOMES THE US CONTRIBUTION TO SAUDI ECONOMIC
PROGRESS AND HOPES FOR FAST RESULTS.

--THE SAG'S VISA POLICY AS REGARDS JEWS IS POLITICAL
IN NATURE AND IS NOT DISCRIMINATORY.

--IT IS UNFAIR OF THE US TO COMPLAIN OF THIS POLICY
WHILE GIVING THE SAG NO CREDIT FOR ITS REFUSAL TO DEAL
WITH COMMUNIST NATIONS--SOMETHING FROM WHICH THE WEST
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BENEFITS.

NOTING THAT, IN ORDER TO "SEND THE US A MESSAGE," PRINCE
SAUD HAD WANTED SECRETARY SIMON'S VISIT POSTPONED, COMMERCE
MINISTER SOLAIM WARNED CHARGE HORAN THAT US PRESSURE ON THE
BOYCOTT AND VISA ISSUES IS HAVING NEGATIVE RESULTS. (CON-
FIDENTIAL) JIDDA 1511, 2/29.)

3. ROK: AGREEMENT ON MISSION IN KHARTOUM

AN ROK FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL TOLD EMBASSY SEOUL MARCH 1 THAT SUDANESE MINISTER FOR SPECIAL AFFAIRS IDRIS AND ROK FOREIGN MINISTER PAK HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SOUTH KOREAN CONSULATE GENERAL IN KHARTOUM. THE OFFICIAL NOTED:

--IDRIS INSISTED DURING THE FEBRUARY 25-27 TALKS THAT THE AGREEMENT COULD NOT BE FINALIZED UNTIL AN ROK ECONOMIC MISSION GOES TO KHARTOUM TO DISCUSS ASSISTANCE.

--PAK IS APPARENTLY CONCERNED ABOUT PLACING A BURDEN ON THE ROK ECONOMY AND ABOUT THE PRECEDENT SET BY BUYING POLITICAL RECOGNITION WITH LARGE-SCALE AID PROGRAMS.

IDRIS ARRIVED IN SEOUL IN THE COMPANY OF SAUDI ENTREPRENEUR KHASHOGGI, WHO REPORTEDLY HAD ACTED AS INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS. (SECRET) SEOUL 1495 (LIMDIS), 3/1.)

4. SINGAPORE: NO WELCOME MAT FOR THE SOVIETS

THE GOS HAS TOLD OIL COMPANIES IN SINGAPORE NOT TO ENTERTAIN ANY REQUESTS BY THE SOVIETS FOR BUNKERING FACILITIES. EMBASSY SINGAPORE BELIEVES THAT, WHILE THE GOS CAN JUSTIFY ITS DECISION ON ECONOMIC GROUNDS, IT IS PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH CHINESE SENSITIVITY TO SOVIET PRESENCE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND ON THE PERIPHERY OF THE INDIAN OCEAN. (CONFIDENTIAL) SINGAPORE 954 (LIMDIS), 2/27.)

5. LATIN AMERICA WANTS SPECIAL TRADE TREATMENT

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COSTA RICAN FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO SAID HE IS PRESSING THE IDEA OF SPECIAL TARIFF PREFERENCES FROM THE US FOR LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES. SINCE THE LATINS ARE NOW THE ONLY LDC BLOC WITHOUT SPECIAL PREFERENCES FROM AN INDUSTRIAL NATION, FACIO BELIEVES PREVIOUS LATIN AMERICAN OPPOSITION TO THE IDEA IS DEAD. (UNCLASSIFIED) SAN JOSE 1010, 2/27.) INGERSOLL

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